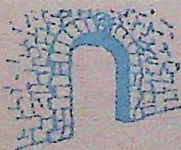


Michael Joyce

afternoon,  
a story



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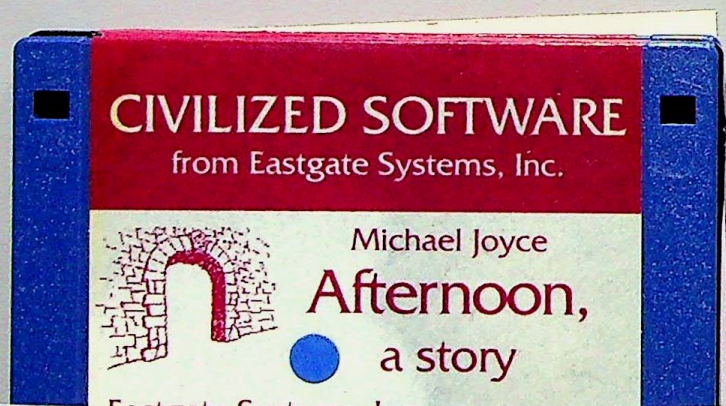
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# Afternoon

*"I want to say that I may have  
seen my son die this morning"*

---

*Michael Joyce's **Afternoon** is a pioneering work of  
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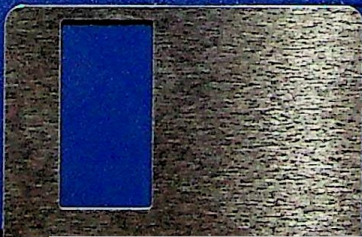


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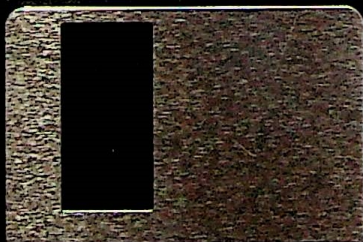
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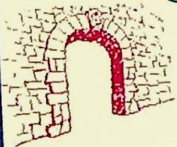
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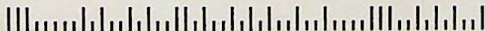
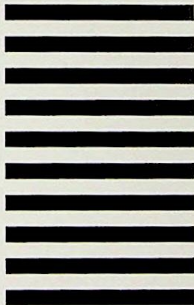
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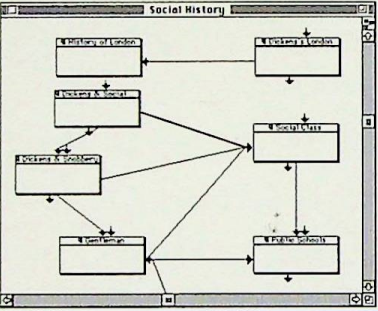
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## An Environment for Serious Hypertext Writing

Storyspace is a hypertext system specifically designed for the process of writing. It offers a pleasant and invigorating environment in which writers can explore and exploit complex relationships and challenging problems. The tool of choice for the overwhelming majority of serious hypertext writers, Storyspace is a unique and powerful tool for working with complex ideas.

## Writing Spaces

Storyspace hypertexts are made up of writing spaces. A writing space may contain text, illustrations, sounds, and movies; writing spaces are usually small, but can be as large as you need. Writing spaces can also contain other writing spaces; to place one writing space inside another, simply drag one space inside another. Direct manipulation provides graceful ways to develop and manage ideas, to visualize the structure of the hypertext, and to experiment spontaneously and creatively with new approaches and fresh ideas.

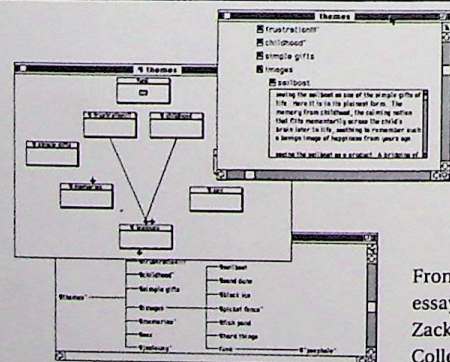
Storyspace lets you hold ideas in your hand.

## Links

Storyspace links interconnect specific phrases or entire writing spaces. To create a link, select its source and use the Link tool to draw a line to the link's destination. No programming or scripting is required, and links are extremely fast.

## Serious Hypertext

Link names explain their function or purpose. A flexible full-text database called the Path Builder helps writers build permanent paths (such as executive overviews) locates, collects, and



From a student essay by Eran Zacks, Vassar College.

Storyspace provides multiple views of your document, giving you unparalleled control and flexibility. Linking is as easy as drawing a line!

analyzes information. One-touch comments make collaborative work efficient and pleasant. Comments appear only when you want to see them, so they do not deface the original.

By placing *guards* on a link, writers may build dynamic documents that adapt their structure to the reader's path through the hypertext. Links may interconnect files, and Storyspace can follow links across a network or onto a CD-ROM.

## Multiple Views

Storyspace provides many different views of a hypertext's structure to help readers and writers explore new ideas. Storyspace maps provide focused overviews and cognitive maps. Chart views emphasize the depth of the document's hierarchical backbone. Outline views illuminate hierarchical structure even more prominently, while Roadmaps and Pathmaps explore the structures created by links and paths among writing spaces. Writers can simultaneously view the same section of a document in many ways.

## Crisp Performance, Compact Size

Storyspace is designed for crisp performance, even on small computers. Because links are compiled, not interpreted, link traversal is especially rapid. Storyspace runs on all current Macintosh models. It starts quickly, and doesn't take up much space. Flexible import/export tools let Storyspace share information with hundreds of graphics and word processing programs.

## A Community of Serious Writers

Storyspace is notable, too, for the diverse and talented community of hypertext writers that depend on its power, flexibility, and grace. The diversity of these writers' approaches to hypertext rhetoric testifies to the program's flexibility and expressiveness, and provides new hypertext writers with an abundance of styles and approaches for study and emulation.

Archaeologists, screenwriters, novelists, scientists, scholars and students throughout the world rely on Storyspace. They write about Storyspace, too; we'd be delighted to send you a complete Storyspace bibliography.

Storyspace works for writers because Storyspace was designed and written by leading hypertext writers—people like novelist Michael Joyce, hypertext theorist Jay David Bolter, and computer scientist Mark Bernstein. Team Storyspace is one of the world's leading hypertext research groups, and Storyspace consistently brings the latest developments in hypertext to your desk.

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—Dr. George Mitrevski  
*Journal of Language Learning Technologies*

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***"This medium has been the most fertile, flexible, giving, nurturing place I have ever found to write in...I love this space!"***

—Mary-Kim Arnold, student  
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- ☐ The RiverText Collection .....\$29.95  
A collection of hypertextual classics by Brian Thomas, including the award-winning *If Monks Had Macs*. Requires HyperCard and a hard disk.
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Yale University Press. A hypertextual marvel. Greek literature from Homer to Pausanias. Requires CD-ROM and HyperCard™.

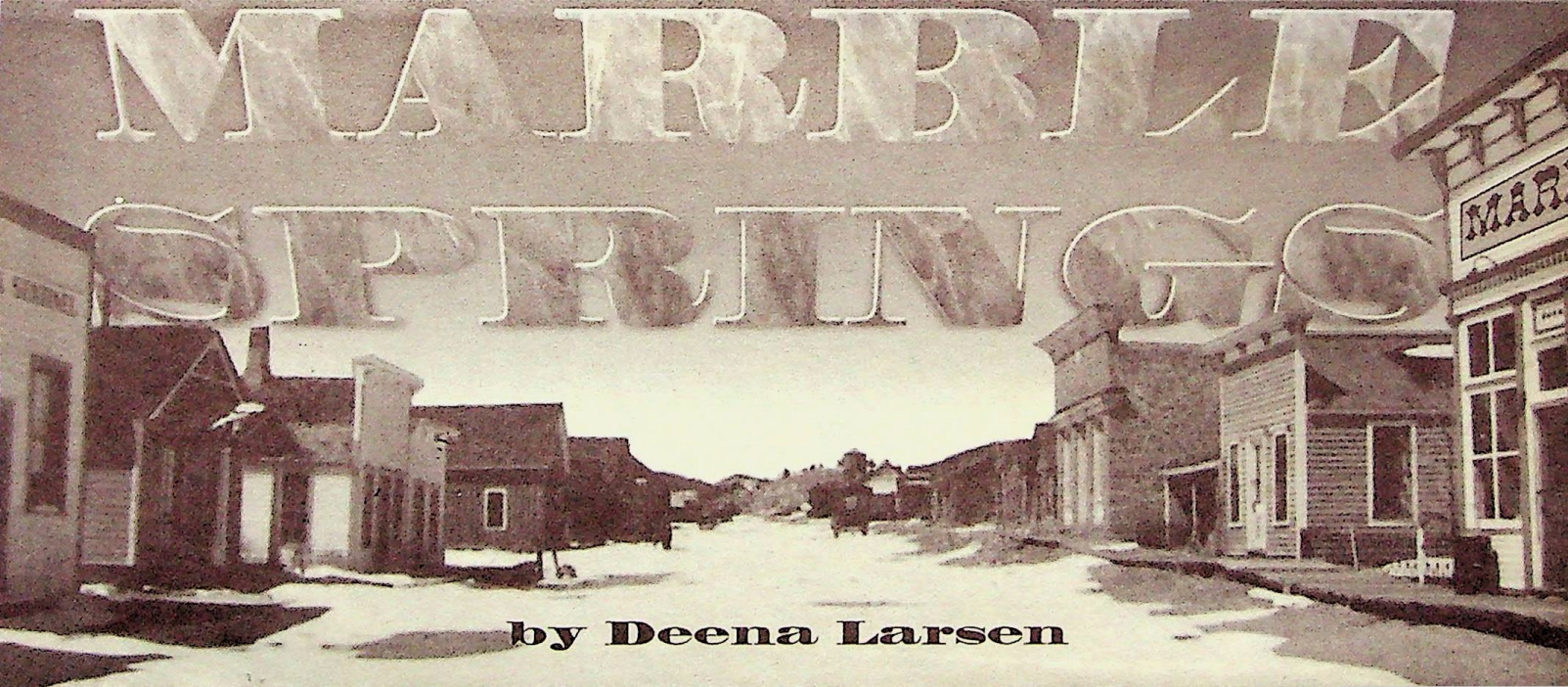
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Sarah Smith, author of *King of Space*, weaves an enthralling and mysterious tale of morality, manners and madness. *Signed by the author.*
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Ted Nelson's pioneering classic, the foundation of large-scale hypertext.



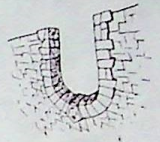
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Marble Springs is exhaustively researched; indeed, many pages are linked to extensive bibliographies on topics ranging from frontier religion and law to quilting and cooking.

Marble Springs is an open constructive hypertext. Readers are invited to contribute new characters, new stories and new connections.

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Special Information for Windows Users

# Installing Your Hypertext

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To install this hypertext on your hard disk:

- Turn on your computer, and start Windows.
- Insert the hypertext disk into any suitable floppy disk drive. If your hypertext includes more than one disk, insert Disk 1 first.
- Choose **Run...** from the Program Manager's FILE menu.
- A dialog box will now appear, asking you to enter a Command Line. If you are using floppy disk drive A, type "A:SETUP". If you are using floppy disk drive B, type "B:SETUP".
- Press OK.
- The Setup program will now begin to copy files from the floppy disk to your hard disk. Follow any special instructions that may appear on the screen.
- After Setup is complete, a new icon for this hypertext will appear in the Hypertexts program group. Double-click this icon whenever you wish to read your new hypertext.

The content of this Windows edition is identical to the Macintosh edition of this title. Some changes in layout and appearance have been made to accommodate special Windows features. The floating palette used in the Macintosh edition has been replaced by a fixed tool bar at the bottom of the hypertext window, and by a special Storyspace™ menu.

If you have any questions about hypertext, please don't hesitate to call Eastgate at (800) 562-1638. Outside the US and Canada, call +1(617) 924-9044. You can reach us by electronic mail at [Eastgate@world.std.com](mailto:Eastgate@world.std.com), or write to Eastgate Systems, Inc., PO Box 1307, Cambridge MA 02238 USA.



# Afternoon, a story

Afternoon, a story

by Michael Joyce

*It's the connected stories of five people  
(who are themselves intertwined  
emotionally, sexually, professionally)...  
The richly nuanced characters come near  
and back away just as people do in life;  
banter, hide, make love, comment on one  
another, reveal and conceal...an informa-  
tion-age Odyssey.*

Pamela McCorduck  
The Whole Earth Review

*A great triumph. I am stunned by the  
quality of the writing...The fragmentation  
of narration has the effect of a lamp  
moving behind darkened stained glass...  
I was stunned, enchanted, jealous, and  
inspired.*

Sarah Smith  
author of King of Space

Afternoon ©1987 Michael Joyce-- All rights reserved. Storyspace  
and Readingspace ©1984-89 Jay David Bolter, Michael Joyce  
and John B. Smith

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# Getting Started



Afternoon runs on all Macintosh™ computers models Plus or larger.

If you use a hard disk, simply copy Afternoon to your hard disk. Remove your original Afternoon disk, and store it in a safe place. Then double-click the icon titled Afternoon.

If you do not use a hard disk, copy Afternoon onto a blank floppy disk and store your original copy in a safe place. You must have at least 160K in free space on your System startup disk to read Afternoon.

Do not rename this application. The story must be named "Afternoon" or "afternoon" to function properly.

# Reading Afternoon

This story was created with Storyspace™, a hypertext program which is both an author's tool and a reader's medium. Storyspace is available separately from Eastgate Systems, Inc.; for more information, call us at (800) 562-1638.

Each time you open Afternoon, you can choose whether to begin a new reading or resume a previous reading. If you resume a previous reading, you begin at the place where you stopped reading previously.

Because Afternoon is a hypertext, it invites you to take an active part.

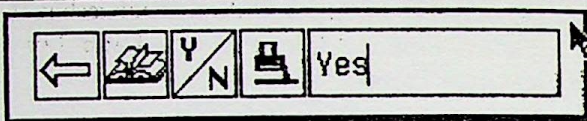
- You may move through the story by pressing the Return key to go from one section to another (i.e., "turn pages")
- You may double-click any word within the text to follow alternate lines of the story. Some especially significant words *yield*, bringing you to new story lines; others simply continue the current thread.

The story exists at several levels; the story changes according to decisions you make. A text you have seen before may be followed by something new, according to a choice you make or already have made during any given reading. While there is no indication of which words yield, they are usually ones which have texture, as well as character names and pronouns.

There are almost always options in any sequence of texts. The lack of clear signals isn't an attempt to vex you, rather an invitation to read either inquisitively or playfully and also at depth. Click on words that interest or invite you.



# The Tool Bar



Use the tool bar at the bottom of the screen to help you read and explore the story.



The "back up" tool lets you retrace your steps through *Afternoon*.



Respond to questions, if you like, by clicking the Yes/No buttons. If you prefer, you may also type your answers— and occasional one-word questions— in the Text entry box.



In subsequent readings, you may wish to browse links between screens by choosing Browse. Browsing lets you examine all the links that lead from one place, giving you a chance to explore all the story's possibilities.



You may also print the text of a page. Simply click on the Print tool.

If you use a large screen display, feel free to drag the tool bar to any convenient location.

To stop reading, choose Close from the File menu. A dialog box asks whether you wish to save the current reading. If you choose yes, *Afternoon* will mark your place. (*Afternoon* also saves your entire path through the story).

# Questions?

If you have any questions or problems, our technical support staff would be delighted to help! Just call us at:

(800) 562-1638 or  
(617) 924-9044

or write to

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Eastgate is the premier publisher of serious interactive fiction. If you enjoy *Afternoon*, and want to keep tabs on other developments in interactive fiction and hypertext, give us a call.

Our next hypertext title will be Sarah Smith's epic, *King of Space*, available in September 1990.





## About the author:

Michael Joyce is a prize-winning novelist as well as a teacher of writing. He has published fiction, poetry and criticism in various journals. His first novel, *The War Outside Ireland* (1982), won the Great Lakes New Writers Award for Fiction, was a Small Press Book Club selection, and was selected for "America's Best..." an international travelling exhibit sponsored by the USIA.

Joyce frequently lectures and publishes on issues relating to hypertext and writing, and is part of the TINAC collective of interactive artists. Together with Jay Bolter and John B. Smith, he is the co-developer of Eastgate's *Storyspace Hypertext Writing Environment*.

He holds an MFA from the Iowa Writers Workshop, where he was a Teaching Writing Fellow; and he has been a Visiting Fellow at the Yale University Artificial Intelligence Project. He is currently Coordinator of the Center for Narrative and Technology at Jackson Community College, and Project Director for ICC's National Community College Alliance charter project, sponsored by Apple Computer and the League for Innovation in Community Colleges.

Joyce is a fairly accomplished cook, specializing mostly in Szechuan and Hunan food; he is always restoring (or perhaps battling) a 19th Century Victorian home. On occasion he has been a Shakespearean actor, director, and once during his twenties spent an entire lifetime during a day's work as a taxi driver.. He and his wife, Martha, have two delightful sons, Eamon and Jeremiah.

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